

# *Postings: from the desk of Jim Brodrick*

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You may have seen in the news that Vice President Joe Biden and U.S. Secretary of Energy Steven Chu visited a Cree plant in Durham, North Carolina, last week. Their visit underscores the federal government's commitment to promote U.S. technology leadership and encourage U.S.-based manufacturing – through R&D funding, federal tax credits for green energy manufacturers, and other means. A few weeks from now, in San Jose, California, DOE will host its [second annual Solid-State Lighting Manufacturing R&D Workshop](#) and address these issues head-on.

Last year, DOE launched a new initiative to enhance the quality and lower the cost of SSL products through improvements in manufacturing equipment and processes. To get started, DOE hosted two workshops – attended by more than 350 chip makers, fixture and component manufacturers, and other industry stakeholders – to create a [roadmap for SSL manufacturing](#). Next month's workshop is intended to update that roadmap, which was completed last fall, and to drill down even deeper into the issues.

My thanks to all of you who contributed to the development of last year's roadmap, which gave us a clearer picture of where we want to go with solid-state lighting manufacturing. Now, with the help of funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, DOE's SSL manufacturing initiative is in full swing, and our first eight manufacturing R&D awards have been selected. Each of the recipients will be at the San Jose workshop to give a preview of what they plan to accomplish with their projects, which range in focus from epitaxy tools and automated defect detection systems to design and

setup of OLED manufacturing pilot lines.

Last year's roadmap laid out where we want to go, and this year we're focusing on defining what exactly needs to be done to get there. This doesn't involve just one particular company or a single solution – industry-wide collaboration and a common framework of priorities are the keys to our joint success. The workshop process is open and participatory, so anyone who wants to can attend, speak up, share perspectives, and be heard. It's an opportunity to share ideas and shape a new area of DOE focus in a formative stage.

At the San Jose workshop, which takes place April 21-22, Vrinda Bhandarkar of Strategies Unlimited will kick off the discussion with an update on SSL manufacturing trends worldwide. Jim Anderson of Philips Color Kinetics will talk about the impact of infrastructure on global manufacturing decisions. A series of panels will explore how the design of SSL products can be improved to make them more manufacturable, how luminaire manufacturing will evolve with the technology, and what steps we can take to foster a significant role in SSL manufacturing in the U.S.

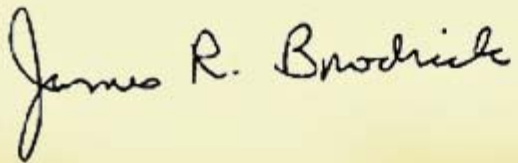
San Jose mayor Chuck Reed will make an appearance, to talk about his city's "Green Vision" for economic growth and environmental stewardship. Attendees will have a chance to talk personally with the eight DOE R&D manufacturing funding recipients, at an evening reception and poster session sponsored by the Next Generation Lighting Industry Alliance and Philips Lumileds. The Alliance plays a key role as the "industry partner" of DOE's SSL program, and Alliance Chair Keith Cook will talk about our common goals. And there'll be a presentation on the nuts and bolts of the DOE SSL proposal review process, complete with insights on how to prepare a comprehensive application.

The heart of the workshop will be two rounds of parallel track sessions – one for LEDs and one for OLEDs – where attendees will be asked to share feedback on proposed updates to the roadmap.

The feedback from these sessions will guide the final updates to the roadmap, which in turn will guide the development of the funding areas for the next round of DOE solicitations. The success of DOE's SSL manufacturing initiative depends on getting input from a wide range of industry stakeholders, and I invite you to come to San Jose and play a part.

To register for the DOE SSL Manufacturing R&D Workshop, or to learn more about it, visit [www.ssl.energy.gov/sanjose2010.html](http://www.ssl.energy.gov/sanjose2010.html).

As always, if you have questions or comments, you can reach me at [postings@lightingfacts.com](mailto:postings@lightingfacts.com).



James R. Brodrick

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